

a first external, flexible element configured to be placed around at least a portion of the heart of a patient, and

an internal support member configured to be received within one of the left and right ventricles and against the interventricular septum, said internal support member being coupled to said first external, flexible element.

A1 cont 2. (Amended) The device of claim 1, wherein said first external, flexible element further comprises a mesh comprised of intersecting fabric elements.

3. (Amended) The device of claim 1, wherein said external, flexible element further comprises a mesh comprised of intersecting polymeric elements.

4. (Amended) The device of claim 1, wherein said internal support member further comprises a flexible strap connected with said first external, flexible element.

A2 6. (Amended) The device of claim 1 further comprising multiple internal support members, each internal support member being formed as a flexible strap coupled to said first external, flexible element.

7. (Amended) The device of claim 1, wherein said first external, flexible element is configured to overly only a portion of one of said ventricles and said internal support member includes a first portion configured to lie against the interventricular

septum in the other of said ventricles and a second portion configured to extend through said one ventricle and connect with said first external, flexible element.

8. (Amended) A device for supporting a heart having left and right ventricles separated by an interventricular septum, the device comprising:

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cont
an external, flexible mesh element to be placed around at least a portion of the heart of a patient,

an internal support member configured to be received within one of the left and right ventricles and against the interventricular septum, said internal support member being coupled to said external, flexible mesh element,

wherein said external, flexible mesh element is configured to overly only a portion of one of said ventricles and said internal support member includes a first portion configured to lie against the interventricular septum in the other of said ventricles and a second portion configured to extend through said one ventricle and connect with said external, flexible mesh element.

Please add new claims 49-51 as follows:

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49. The device of claim 1, further comprising a second external, flexible element coupled to said first external, flexible element, wherein said first external, flexible element is configured to be placed around at least a portion of said left ventricle and said second external, flexible element is configured to be placed around at least a portion of said right ventricle, said first external, flexible element,